

A TRUE
RELATION
Of the great and glorious
VICTORY

Through Gods Providence,

OBTAINED

By Sir William Waller, Sir Arthur

Haslerig, and others of the Parlia-

ments Forces;

Against the Marquesse Hartford,

Prince Maurice, Sir Ralph Hopton,

and others.

With the NAMES of what persons of
quality were kill'd and taken on both sides.

AS it was sent to a worthy Member of

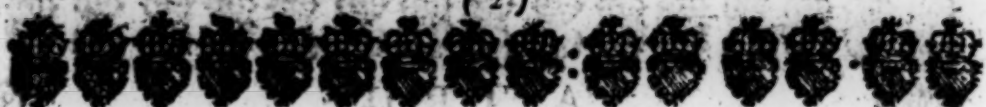
the House of COMMONS, who appointed

it to be printed and published.

Imprimatur,

John White.

Printed for Edw. Blount, July 14. 1643.



A True Relation of the great, and glorious Victory, &c.

Seeing that by experience we find many are too lavish of their Spens, and in stead of verity, publish their own fancies, to the great prejudice of the Cause, we thought fit to commend to the world this brief, but true Relation of severall Occurrences between the two Armies in the Western parts.

The prevailing of Sir *Ralph Hoptons* Forces in *Sommerfetshire*, as also the defeat which our Forces received at *Wells*, is sufficiently published to the world already; therefore we need not to insist upon it; only we must acquaint the Reader, that had not cowardise or treachery, if not both, betrayed those Forces, *Mercurius Aulicus* could not have had that advantage to boast of their wonderful success against the Parliament Forces. I purpose onely to give a brief Relation of the carriage of businesses: When once Sir *William Waller* had the opportunity to encounter with them. Upon the 12. of June Sir *William* drawing his Forces out of *Bath*: before he had marched 4. miles from the city, had intelligence of our Forces quitting *Wells*, and our eyes soon were witnesses of their miserable condition; The truth is, they were utterly routed and scattered, lost all their Carriages; but a party being sent out by Sir *William Waller*, soon recovered most of the Carriages, and pursued the enemy within three miles of *Wells*, and there skirmished with them, did good execution upon them; took divers prisoners, many horse, and so with honor retreated to *Bath*, and not in a pelting chase: (At this time Prince *Maurice* received two sore wounds, was beaten off his horse, and narrowly escaped from being taken Prisoner; as *Mercurius Aulicus* would bear the world in hand; but we must passe by his insolencies, seeing his pen, is so accustomed to publish notorious untruths that with the common lyar he is justly suspected even when he stumbles upon a truth.

A full fortnight the enemy rested at *Wells* before he durst venture upon an advance, in which time though they molested not us, yet we often visited their quarters, & took divers prisoners, & its worth observing, that when propos. were made to exchange pris. the list which they gave in amounted but to 19. the best of them being but a Corporall, whereas we had no less of theirs then 70. persons, amongst which

which were 3. Captains, 2. Antients, and one Quarter-Master, They being at length gotten unto Eroom, and the parts adjacent, a party of ours consisting of 250. under the command of Major Dower (a man who hath given sufficient testimony of his fidelity, valour and wisdom) were design'd to fall upon the enemies Quarters; but after they were gone out, we receiving better intelligence how the Enemy lay, an order was sent after him to divert his course, and fall upon their Quarters in Stock-Lane: his Guides were ignorant of the way, so that they spent much time before they could find the place, insomuch as it was cleer day light, when they came thither: but it pleased God to send so thick a mist, that they fell upon their Quarters undiscovered, where Sir James Hambleton his regiment of horse: the best the enemy could boast of was quartered: we fell in upon them, by which time myst was disperced, and the enemy soon subdued, so that with the losse of one slain, and 7. wounded on our side, we brought home a rich prize: the particulars whereof we here insert. Lieutenant-colonell Carre, Major Blunt, Captain Cull, Capt: Welsh, 4. Cornets, 2. Quarter-masters, 5. Corporall, 97. Troopers, whereof 10. were Gentlemen of quality: many of them were Papists, especially the Officers: 140. horse were brought in upon account, besides many which the souldiers had convey'd away: 60. case of Pistols, with many port-mantles, which our souldiers made comfortable use of.

Three Cornets with their staves were presented by Major Dower unto the Generall, and one more was burnt by a granado, which the Major himself threw in at a window of the house where it did execution, this so provoked the enemy, that the next day they advanced towards us, which was Munday the 3. of July.

Information being given that they were gathered into a body within 2. miles of Fould-hill, and there being two wayes, the one leading to Oxford, the other to bathe; it was thought fit to send a party to interrupt their passage; whereupon the aforesaid Major Dower was commanded forth with 300. horse and foot. The night being dark, himselfe a stranger to the place, knew not what passages were to be made good but only by conjecture; as the day approach'd, the enemy did follow, and he perceiving that he wanted men, sent for relief: three troops of horse and 3. companies of foot were sent unto him: in the mean time our Army was drawn out upon Claverton-Down. The greatest part of the enemies whole body charging the Major, forced him to call off his men in the best order he could, which was so well performed, that he lost only 10. common souldiers,

and 2. Hammer-pieces, through the Gunners negligence: we tooke of them 13. prisoners, whereof one was a captain: Yet for all this the enemy boasts, (as is his manner) of a great defeat. The enemy now having gain'd Fourd-bridge, drew the next morning being Tuesday unto Baner-hill, and we drew our Forces out of Bath up to Lansdown; faced the enemy divers hours, fired 5. pieces of Ordnance upon them which did some execution. The enemy perceiving they could not without disadvantage fall upon us, conveyed away their carriages, and so retreated towards Marshfield, leaving a party to face us; we sending out a party against them, they speedily retreated without striking one blow, & left behind them 300. weight of bullet, which we highly prize as a rich mite out of their penury. Our party chased them to Marshfield, and that night gave them a sound alarm, and not one of them stir'd, although they had bragged to be in battle that night. but they wisely considered, that after so hot a chase, the water in Bath would have bin hot for them, which might have produced a fatall malignant Feavor. Our army quartered that night upon the Down, and in the morning the enemy gathered in a great body upon Friznoll-hill neer Marshfield, we drew towards them, and pitched upon another hill about a mile distant from them, a woody vale lying between us, both strove who should farthest line the hedges with musketeers; but Captain Butler (under the command of Sir Arthur Hazelrigg) quickly chased them from their Ambuscadoe, and slew divers of them. Our Generall Sir William Waller, perceiving their Army to retreat immediately, commanded Major Domett to take out a party of 200. horse, and that seconded by 200. more, commanded by Colonell Care: both parties advanced towards their army, and charged them so gallantly, that they put their Army to a disorderly retire, as that their horse took the rear of their foot; but they taking heart again in a full body, with their great Artillery, caused our party to retire yet orderly, which Sir William perceiving, sent Colonell Ewer with a party to relieve them, and carried all a gall, which put the enemy to a second retire. But the fight was vigorously maintained for 2. hours, at length our foot growing weary, a fresh supply was sent, who being fresh soldiers did not make good their ground, which constrained our parties to retreat, after Col. Marshall had received a hurt through his right arme, as his sword was even at the throat of the Lord of Carnarvan. Our men fell back to their first ground, bringing backe the 2. Hammer-pieces which were taken from us at Fourd-ridge the munday before. The enemy

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(enraged by the wounds of their chief commanders from so small a party of ours) charged up to our ground, which ground after a hard dispute was yielded unto them partly by force, partly voluntarily upon good advice; that considering our horse in number exceeded theirs, as much as their foot did ours, we might have sufficient room to fight on: both Armies being on the Playne, charges grew so hot on both sides, as the like was never seen in England: yea some old souldiers sayd that the furious fights in France were but a play in comparison of this; not one regiment of ours but charg'd them horse & foot, 4. or 5. several times; especially sir *Ar. Haz.* who charg'd bravely and was himself so far engaged, that had he not gallantly bestirred himself, and killed the man that encountred with him, he had been taken prisoner; in which conflict he received a wound in the thigh at push of Pike, but blessed be God no danger in it, being the next day able to walk abroad; And the Cenerall Sir *William VValler* (although the chief care of ordering the battell lay upon him) in his own person charged four times upon them.

Thus the battell continued for the space of nine hours, at least, untill all the Enemies horse left their foot naked, and night being come on, hindred us from compleating our victory.

Our horse being in continuall service for three dayes, and without meat or water for 24 hours, and our foot much scattered; it was held fit by a Councell of War, that we should return to Bathe for refreshing our horse and men, and rallying our foot, well knowing we might easily recover the hill, and so fall upon the enemy again to prosecute our victory.

Our retreat was so orderly performed, that the enemy durst not follow us, having now learnt by experience, that our giving ground hath been much to their disadvantage: the next morning whilst we were preparing for a march, we were informed, that the enemy was retreated to their old quarters at *Marchfield*.

On our side we lost Major *Stawhan* a Scotchman, major of Dragoons, as also a Lieutenant to captain *Fincher*, two Cornets, the one belonged to Major *Dewer*, and the other to captain *Drake*. For souldiers, we finde but twelve dead upon the place, the enemy having buried and carryed away their own, we may be confident would not be so kind to conceall any of ours; we have about sixty wounded men, whereof 60 or already are dead.

Thus you have a just and faithfull account of our proceedings hitherto, in all which we desire to return the glory unto God, it being indeed

indeed his doings, and may well be marvellous in our eyes: And God teach us thus comfortably to conclude with the Prophet *Ezky, 26.* *The Lord will ordain peace for us, for he hath wrought all our works in us.*

For the losse of the Enemies side, we have this Information:

MEn of quality slain; Sir Bevill Greenfield, Lieutenant Colonell Ward, Sergeant Major Lower, Captain Bassett, Captain James, Captain Cornisham, and four more of the same rank. Sir Ralph Hopton received a wound through the arm; the Lord Moore his foot shot off with a Canon bullet. Of common Souldiers were slain above 200, and wounded some 300 more. This Information we have from their own party which are taken prisoners by us, and our men which escaped from them being in number about thirty, that came off by reason of a Pannick fear seizing on the enemy by an Alarum given of our falling again upon them that night; yea so great was their fear, that the same night above 500 of their men run from them, many of which were taken up by the country people, and brought in to us. On Thursday morning their Magazin of powder was blown up, a dreadfull sight to them that beheld it, two Captains were slain therewith, twenty more wounded, of which number was Prince Maurice and Sir Ralph Hopton, as the Princes own Grooms (who is a prisoner with us) confesseth.

After Sir William Waller had Thursday and till Friday noone July refreshed his Army in Bath, he marched thence towards Marchfeild (the enemy marching thence that day to Chipnam) and that night encamped on a Downe neere it, and early Saturday morne advanced towards Chipnam the enemies quarter, and satte downe on a plaine about a mile and halfe from the towne. The Marquesse of Hartford with his Army shevved himselfe upon a hill by Chipnam: some light skirmishes betwixt the horse past that day. The next morning being the Lords Day, some prisoners by exchange came to us from the enemies Campe: one brought a Message from the Marquesse to Sir William Waller: that the Marquesse desired their might be good

good quarter betwixt our Armies, and that we might fight no more in holes, but in the Campaine. In answer to this, Sir *William Waller* sent a Trumpet with a writing to this purpose, that he would meete his Lordship that afternoon, about Sherston in the playnes, and if his Lordship wanted powder (as the prisoners we tooke affirm'd he did) he would lend him some for the fight. The Marquesse had no sooner read the Message, but with more hast then good speed, he rose up from Chipnam, and marched towards the Devises: But before his Rears was out of the Town, our Van came in, and ten men there charged 60. horse of the enemies: took 8. prisoners, kill'd two, and put the rest to flight; Sir *William Waller* with his Army followed their Rear with as much hast as possible he could overtoke them about Sir *Edward Boytons* park, and from thence chased them all day from hedge to hedge, untill we had beaten them home to the Vizes. In which chase great numbers both of horse and foot of the enemies soooke ced them, and some came and layed down their armes to us, with their muskets charg'd & bandelers full of powder: by which time it was darke, and command given for a retreat to a large moore two mile back, where we encamped that night, Munday morn very early we marched up to the Downs which lead from the Vizes to Marlborough, as soon as our Vann was come up, intelligence was brought to Sir *William Waller* by his scouts, that 500. horse were advanced from Marlborough within three miles, which appeared after to be the Earle of *Clifford* with 4. wagons of ammunition from Oxford, whereupon 300. horse in severall parties were sent out to encounter them, but after some light skirmishing and little hurt done, but that we tooke two or three prisoners of theirs, and one Mr. *Parlons* an intelligencer; and they the like number of ours: our horse having chased them five or six miles towards Marlborough.

brought returned, by which time the enemies from the
 Vizes had drawn out his horse on a hill, a mile from the
 town towards Marleborough & his foot nearer to us, as if he
 would have fought, hoping as we conceive to have met the
 E. of Crafford with 4. wagon load of ammunition from Ox-
 ford. But as soon as our Army marched down the hill to-
 wards them, they all both horse and foot retreated into
 the towne, when in the meane time Sir William Waller en-
 camped that night in that ground which the enemy before
 possesst very neer the town, some light skirmishes past that
 night, what the issue is we yet know not, but some of the
 L. Craffords trooops, who conveyed the ammunition that
 night from Marleborough to the Vizes in an inclosed way at
 Hungerford by 8. of the clock Tuesday morning reported
 that Sir William Waller had taken my Lord Crafford with
 most of his troops, and the ammunition he conveyed, the
 like a Gentleman of my Lord Wilmots reported who was
 come within five miles of the Vizes, to the ayde of the
 Marquesse by five of the clock that morning, and hearing
 of the taking of the ammunition, and of the Marquesse of
 Hartfords retreating privately from the Vizes through his
 Parke towards Oxford, was retired with his four Regi-
 ments, and come within a mile of Hungerford by eight of
 the clock.

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